



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES

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*While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV Health Services are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.*

## COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES MEETING MINUTES January 13, 2005

**Approved, 2/10/05**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	HIV EPI AND OAPP STAFF
Al Ballesteros, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Adrian Aguilar	Elizabeth Gomez	Rochelle Floyd
Nettie DeAugustine, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Carrie Broadus	Jeffrey Goodman	Michael Green
Ruben Acosta	Ruth Davis	Mario Guerrero	Vicki Nagata
Carla Bailey	Nancy Eugenio	Richard Heruo	Diana Vasquez
Anthony Braswell	Hugo Farias	Miki Jackson	Juhua Wu
Robert Butler	Alexander Gonzales	Beverly Johnson	
John Caranto	Charles Henry	Ebony Johnson	
Charles Carter	Elizabeth Marte	Kevin Lewis	
Richard Eastman	Elizabeth Mendia	Maxine Liggins	
Whitney Engeran	Vicky Ortega	Davyd McCoy	
Gunther Freehill	Dana Pierce-Hedge	Ruel Nollodo	<b>COMMISSION STAFF/ CONSULTANTS</b>
William Fuentes	Alexis Rivera	Everardo Orozco	
John Griggs	Fontaine Shockley	Ron Porcht	Virgina Bonila
David Guigni	Vanessa Talamantes	Jane Price-Wallace	Libby Boyce
Rebecca Johnson-Heath	<b>PUBLIC</b>	Alicia Crews-Rhoden	Gary Garcia
Wilbert Jordan		Bruce Rhoden	Jane Nachazel
Marcy Kaplan	Daisy Aguirre	Natalie Sanchez	Doris Reed
Brad Land/Dean Page	Cinderella Barrios-Cernek	Afreen Shariff	Sherry Rolls
Michael Lewis	Kelvin Boatman	Nancy Shearer	James Stewart
Anna Long	Elissa Bradley	James T. Skinner	Craig Vincent-Jones
Andrew Ma	Mario Chavez	Eric Taylor	Nicole Werner
John Palomo	Phil Curtis	Zorina Turner	
Chris Perry	Alex Cuatro	Brigitte Twedell	
Wendy Schwartz	Linda Foreman	Gary Vrooman	
Paul Scott/Richard Hamilton	Nedra French	Jan Wise	
Kathy Watt	Joseph Gala	Jocelyn Woodard	
Fariba Younai	Alex Garcia	Patricial Woody	
	Terry Goddard	Rocio Yong	

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## CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET:

- 1) Commission Meeting Agenda: *January 13, 2005*
- 2) Table of Contents: Commission Meeting Packet, *1/13/05*
- 3) Commission Sign-In Instructions
- 4) Commission Guidelines for Conduct
- 5) Commission Membership Roster
- 6) Committee Assignment List
- 7) Commission Membership Tables
- 8) Commission Calendar (*January 2005 –May 2005*)
- 9) Commission Meeting Minutes: *December 9, 2004*
- 10) Directive: Strategic Planning, *1/03/05*
- 11) Presentation: Priority- and Allocation-Setting Needs Assessment, *Mitchell Cohen, PhD*
- 12) Memo to Commission: Priority- and Allocation-Setting Change Matrix, *1/18/05*
- 13) Presentation: Medi-Cal Redesign, *Phil Curtis, AIDS Project Los Angeles*
- 14) Information Packet: Medi-Cal Redesign
- 15) Finance Committee: Year 14 Financial Reports, *12/15/04*
- 16) Memo to Commission: Van Transportation, *12/21/04*
- 17) Presentation: Year 15 Title I Application, *Michael Green, PhD, OAPP*
- 18) Memo to Health Deputies: Ryan White Care Act 2005 Title I Grant Application, *12/13/04*
- 19) PPC Meeting Minutes: *December 2, 2004*

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. DeAugustine called the meeting to order at 9:45 am. Self-introductions were made. Ms. DeAugustine welcomed and invited the new Commissioner candidates to introduce themselves.
- II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was approved.  
**MOTION #1:** *Motion passed by consensus.*
- III. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**  
A. December 9, 2004: Minutes were approved.  
**MOTION #2:** *Motion passed by consensus.*
- IV. **PARLIAMENTARIAN REMARKS:** Mr. Stewart reminded everyone that participants get to speak twice on any subject. If they want to speak a third time, the rest of the body has to consent to allow them to do so. He added that if what one wants to say has already been said, it does not have to be said again.
- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:** Ms. DeAugustine announced that public comment would be limited to one minute. The following people spoke about the need for transportation services as a means of accessing medical care and treatment: Alicia Crews-Rhoden, Jane Price-Wallace, Bruce Rhoden, Serena Turner, Eric Taylor, Afreen Shariff, Ron Porcht and Nedra French. Ms. DeAugustine informed everyone that the Finance Committee asked OAPP to supply additional data on the topic for its meeting on February 27, 2005.
- VI. **CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:** There was no report.
- VII. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Vincent-Jones reminded all the Commissioners to sign and submit their pledge forms to the Year 16 Priority- and Allocation-Setting Process and the Standards of Development Process, if they have not already done so.
- VIII. **STATE OFFICE OF AIDS (OA) REPORT:** There was no report.  
A. State Budget
  - Mr. Freehill reported that the Governor had released his budget. There is an additional allocation of funds for the various AIDS accounts. He noted that there was an increase of \$20.1 million—all allocated to ADAP.

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- Ms. DeAugustine reminded everyone that Medi-Cal also impacts care and treatment services. She added that the State had scheduled meetings around the State to describe the Medi-Cal Redesign plans, noting that there was one scheduled for Friday, January 21, 2005 at the Hall of Administration.
- Mr. Land asked about reports that San Francisco (SF) is taking steps to address a \$4 million shortfall in HIV/AIDS funding. While Mr. Freehill did not know how SF came to that conclusion—since awards had not yet been announced—several people suggested that SF assessed the potential impact of Hold Harmless and made the subsequent funding shortfall decisions. Mr. Freehill recalled a report from months ago that SF was going to backfill the funds, and said that there had also been a ballot initiative to identify additional revenue sources for the services. SF chose not to backfill the funds, and the ballot initiative failed. He concluded indicating that SF is still funded at a per-capita allocation far in excess of any jurisdiction in the country.

### IX. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### A. Priorities and Planning Committee:

1. **Strategic Planning:** Mr. Land explained that it was time to begin preparing a new Comprehensive Care Plan, and reported that the Committee was suggesting the Commission launch a Strategic Planning Initiative. The Strategic Planning process, he added would generate thorough development of EMA goals, objectives and mission. Ms. DeAugustine suggested that the process be governed by an Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, reportable to the Executive Committee and the Commission, and asked for volunteers. Ms. DeAugustine volunteered for the committee, as did Ms. Kaplan, Dr. Long, Ms. Bailey, Mr. Carter, Ms. Schwartz and either Dr. Younai or Dr. Jordan from the Standards of Care (SOC) Committee. Ms. DeAugustine said that membership to the Committee would be opened further when the new members are seated on the Commission.

**MOTION #3: Motion passed by consensus.**

2. **Needs Assessment:**

- Dr. Cohen began his presentation by noting how collaborative the needs assessment process had been. He added that the HIV Care Assessment Project (H-CAP) worked with over 34 recruiters and many provider agencies, many of whom did extraordinary work. He went on to make his presentation, which is available on their website [www.pch.org](http://www.pch.org), (Los Angeles, under “Publications”), and will be available on the Commission website. Dr. Cohen was asked if adherence could be measured against actual medication use. Mr. Vincent –Jones responded that the HIV Epi Program had just received a CDC grant, Multiple Morbidity Monitoring Project (MMMP), where they will correlate and compare data from chart extractions with expressed need.

3. **Geographic Estimate of Need (GEN) Subcommittee:** Mr. Land thanked the committee members, staff and the Service Provider Networks for providing valuable input in the planning process. He indicated that the Committee had previously recommended the formation of a GEN subcommittee, and asked for additional members to join them.

#### B. Public Policy Committee:

- Mr. Page reported that Senator Vasconcellos had introduced SB 1159 (Drug Needle Bill) and Governor Schwarzenegger had signed it. This bill allows pharmacies to sell or furnish syringes without a prescription. The legislation requires each County or City to authorize its implementation within their jurisdiction. Mr. Page asked if the Commission was going to support the issue. Mr. Engeran agreed to put the issue on the next Public Policy Committee agenda.
- Ms. DeAugustine commented that it is a complicated implementation plan: requiring the establishment of a Pharmacy Board, certifying pharmacies who can take part, and the County’s endorsement of the Pharmacy Participation Board. Guidelines were being developed at the State level. Mr. Freehill reported that the regulations mostly deal with determining a list of pharmacies who are participating, and materials about HIV prevention, needle disposal and other issues being available at the pharmacy at the point of sale.

2. **Medi-Cal Redesign:**

- Mr. Curtis, Director, Government Affairs at AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) began his presentation by describing Medicaid: a national entitlement program; jointly funded by each state and the federal government. In California, it is called Medi-Cal. Medi-Cal is the largest single source of funding for HIV/AIDS care, treatment and pharmaceuticals, and is much larger than the CARE Act and Medicare. Sixty percent (60%) of people with AIDS in the country rely on Medicaid for care, treatment and pharmaceuticals.
- Mr. Curtis reiterated news about the Medi-Cal Redesign meetings held by the Administration. People were participating by attending and, also, on conference call.

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- Dr. Jordan questioned what our response would be if Medi-Cal is cut or begins restricting its formulary. Mr. Curtis replied that our response would need to be a collaborative one involving all of the local stakeholders, including the Los Angeles City AIDS Coordinator and officials from West Hollywood.

3. ***Names-Based HIV Reporting:***

- Mr. Engeran reminded everyone of the two provider education forums being presented on February 17, 2005: English-language, followed by a Spanish-language, forums on name-based HIV reporting 9:30 am – 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm at St. Anne's Maternity Home. He encouraged all of the providers to send representatives. The flyers, he noted, have been e-mailed to the Commission, public and provider mailing lists. He reported that some of the Committee members attended a Southern California HIV Advocacy Coalition (SCHAC) meeting the day before to discuss the issue and the Committee continues to engage community education and outreach efforts.

C. **Finance Committee:**

1. ***Financial Reports:*** Mr. Ma reported on the financial reports, noting a current balance of \$15,000,000 remaining, with one delinquent agency that has not submitted invoices in the past consecutive three months. For Title II, the allocation of \$3,283,000 has a remaining balance of \$1,905,000, with one delinquent agency that has not submitted invoices.
2. ***Transportation:*** Mr. Ma reported that the Committee sent a letter to OAPP to get a response regarding the cost of services per contract, and what OAPP has done in terms of providing technical assistance to the providers transitioning from van transportation services. The letter asked OAPP to report back on the issue at the Finance Committee meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

D. **Recruitment, Diversity and Bylaws Committee:** Mr. Butler reminded the Commission of the training following the meeting, starting in January and running to April. The training is designed to acclimate prospective nominees to the new Commission structure, on how the Commission does business, and tying all the work at the trainings into what is happening at the Commission meetings.

E. **Standards of Care Committee:** Dr. Jordan reported that they have identified two expert review panels to review mental health psychosocial and psychiatric services, marking the start of the Standards Development process in February.

XI. **HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY PROGRAM report:** There was no report.

XII. **OFFICE OF AIDS PROGRAMS AND POLICY (OAPP) REPORT:**

A. **Year 15 Title I Application:**

- Dr. Green explained how the year's Title I Application differed from applications in previous years. HRSA released the guidance on September 7, 2004—an extremely late release date. The application had a very short turnaround time, due to HRSA on November 10, 2004. The final award announcement, he thought, should come in February. Dr. Green then went on to explain the various sections of the application and how OAPP responded to them.
- Ms. DeAugustine asked why the Commission was not listed in Appendix B, the EMA Functional Organizational Chart, where the Partners are listed. Dr. Green responded that the guidance, which was very different this year, specifically asked for an organizational chart without the planning council. Ms. Kaplan suggested that HRSA might have done so in an effort to standardize instructions for the guidance throughout the agency, and that most programs do not have associated planning councils.
- Dr. Jordan expressed his concern about the large number of people who know their HIV status and are not in care, suggesting the need to define who those people are. Mr. Ballesteros concurred and responded that it needs further discussion and asked that various committees add it to their agendas. Mr. Freehill reminded everyone that the discussion about the CARE system—noting that there were 22,000 clients in the CARE Act-funded system, with only 15,000 of them getting CARE Act-funded medical services—would not answer the question alone about out-of-care individuals. For example, someone with HIV who has private insurance would not access CARE Act-funded services. We have no way of documenting or even knowing who or where they are in the total system. Every jurisdiction, including Los Angeles, he noted, is dealing with this question.
- Mr. Land expressed concern about identifying other resources and getting data from other medical care systems. He suggested that the Commission look into other planning councils are doing to get this information. Dr. Green responded that the Los Angeles County EMA partners had been working consistently with the other EMAs in the State to develop strategies to identify “unmet need”.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones addressed page 16 of the application regarding coordination of services and funding streams, noting that when the Commission completed its Financial Needs Assessment a few years ago, it identified total funds of about \$250,000,000 in the EMA for HIV/AIDS care. He went on to say that the information in the Title I application had been based on the Financial Needs Assessment, but, in this year's application that figure, was doubled. He asked if there was

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any additional data that had been made available that could raise the amount so significantly. Dr. Green promised to get back with that information at a later date. Mr. Vincent-Jones also clarified whether or not the unmet need calculation included those with who are HIV+, but do not know it, because that would represent a change in the unmet need framework. Mr. Freehill responded that the unmet need formula had not changed, and those figures were not included.

### XIII. PREVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Ms. Watt reported that the PPC was given a presentation from the Coordinated Provider Networks (CPNs), which have now been combined with the Service Provider Network (SPNs). They also had a presentation from Trista Bingham, PhD, from the HIV Epidemiology Program, on a new study among MSM/IDUs.
- Mr. Engeran asked about the status of OAPP's payment for counseling and testing services at Commercial Sex Venues (CSVs), indicating that Mr. Henry had said the service had ended due to the new Ordinance. Ms. Watt responded that a large part of the PPC meeting had been devoted to that topic, confirming that testing and counseling in CSVs had been cut from the new prevention contracts. Agencies that had been formally providing those services had been told to provide them at bars and clubs. At previous meetings, Mr. Henry had said that the bathhouse and sex club owners would be paying for the counseling and testing services when the new Ordinance goes into effect. Ms. Watt said that there were two bathhouse owners at the PPC meeting, and a few members agreed to sit down and sort this out with them. She noted that the providers in question have other funding from the City of West Hollywood, and they are using that money to do their work in the bathhouses. Mr. Ballesteros asked if the PPC had recommended the discontinuation of funding for counseling and testing in CSVs in its Prevention Plan. Ms. Watt responded that they had not done so. Ms. DeAugustine asked Ms. Watt to keep the Commission informed on progress on the issue.
- On another note, Ms. Watt reported that PPC membership on the Commission was discussed, and Mario Perez decided to apply for a seat on behalf of the PPC. They also discussed asking the Commission to recommend two or three members for PPC membership after the Commission's new membership is seated, suggesting the need for enhanced communication and collaboration.
- She concluded that public comment came primarily from transgenders from Bienestar voicing their concerns that Bienestar's Latina Transgender Program had not been funded.
- Mr. Butler reiterated that he had been asking for the Prevention Plan since September, 2004. He emphasized its importance to the ongoing development of the Comprehensive Care Plan. Ms. Watt responded that members of the PPC do not have a copy either. Some components were being written in December, and they were told that they would be getting a final copy in the next week or week-and-a-half. She assured that a copy would be provided to the Commission as soon as it is available.
- Mr. Griggs thanked Ms. Watt for going out to Antelope Valley and making a presentation to them. He has been listening to many reports and presentations for over a year, but he asked if there was ever going to be a report on where the virus is, who is working on it, and if there any efforts developing a cure and/or vaccine. Ms. DeAugustine concurred and said that that suggestion would be brought up at a future Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Kaplan suggested breaking it down with an Epi report bi-monthly.

### XIV. COMMISSION COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:

- Mr. Eastman read a letter from Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky to Assemblymember Paul Koretz, dated December 14, 2004. The letter responded to an October request to put the implementation guidelines of Proposition 215 and SB 420, regarding medical marijuana, on the Board of Supervisors agenda. Supervisor Yaroslavsky commended Msrs. Koretz and Eastman and the Los Angeles County Medical Marijuana Task Force for the development of the guidelines and a resolution regarding implementation of the Compassionate Use Act in Los Angeles County. The letter went on to say that the Board's consideration of the guidelines until the Supreme Court case on the issue is settled. Assuming there is a favorable outcome, Supervisor Yaroslavsky anticipates Board support for full implementation.
- Mr. Hamilton attended the last PPC meeting and feels that the overall consensus from the community that the current round of funding was not a positive experience. He went on to say that communities of color have disproportionate numbers of HIV/AIDS in their communities and the way things are funded now, those communities are going to suffer further. He thanked the OAPP for their assistance in helping a person living with AIDS visiting from out-of-town with an emergency situation. On another note, Mr. Hamilton announced that this week includes National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The Martin Luther King Parade is on January 17, 2005; the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Coalition of Los Angeles has entered the parade. There were a series of events starting January 29, 2005 with the Women's Breakfast, going through February 7, 2005.

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**XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Mr. Vrooman reported that SCHAC was planning AIDSWatch in Washington DC in five months (May), and it would cost approximately \$500 per person. He invited everyone to join SCHAC for \$10, and to become members of the Soul Check Organization. Soul Check is helping people get to Washington DC with \$200 in funds. The dates are May 2 – 3, 2005, \$100 for a night for hotel, and \$200 roundtrip airfare.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones reminded everyone of the training following the conclusion of the meeting, and said that lunch would be provided for those attending.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m. in memory of the Southeast Asia Tsunami victims, Lynn Chamberlin, Antonio Yepez and Bruce Norman, Connie Norman's long-time partner.

<b>MOTION AND VOTING SUMMARY</b>		
<b>MOTION #1:</b> Approve the Agenda Order.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passed</b>
<b>MOTION #2:</b> Approve the minutes from the December 9, 2004 Commission on HIV Health Services meeting.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passed</b>
<b>MOTION #3:</b> Approve the plan to launch a Strategic Planning Initiative, and create an Ad-Hoc Strategic Planning Committee, reportable to the Executive Committee, to oversee the initiative.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	<b>Motion Passed</b>